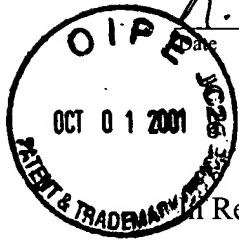


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231" on

Attorney Docket No. 8200-0007  
PATENT #9



September 19, 2001  
Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of:  
Eric B. CUMMINGS et al.

Serial No.: 09/870,391

Group Art Unit: 2621

Filing Date: May 30, 2001

Examiner: Unassigned

Title: SELF-REGISTERING SPREAD-SPECTRUM BARCODE METHOD

### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This is a preliminary amendment to the patent application identified above. Prior to examination of the subject application, please enter the following amendments to the specification.

### AMENDMENTS

#### IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the paragraph presented in Appendix A onto page 1 of the specification, after the Title. The paragraph to entered reads as follows:

### STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT INTEREST

A1 The United States Government has certain rights in this invention pursuant to Contract No. DE-AC04-94AL85000 between the United States Department of Energy and the Sandia Corporation for the operation of the Sandia National Laboratory.